PROCEEDINGS OF THE TRAVANCORE-COCHIN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THIRD SESSION—1951

Wednesday, *the 21st February 1951*

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The Assembly met for its Third Session at 11-30 a.m. on Wednesday, the 21st February 1951, in the Legislative Chamber, Trivandrum.

His Highness the Rajpramukh having arrived in the Chamber, in procession with the Speaker, Deputy Speaker, the Secretary to the Assembly and His Highness' personal staff, occupied the Speaker's Chair on the dais. The Speaker was seated to the left of His Highness.

ADDRESS BY
HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJPRAMUKH

His Highness the Rajpramukh: Hon'ble Members of the Legislature,

I have very great pleasure in welcoming you to this session of the Legislative Assembly.

2. With the rest of the world, we have passed through another year of hopes and fears. The international situation has been full of anxieties during this period. More than once it looked as though the world was on the brink of an abyss. But the wisdom and patience of the great leaders of nations have so far saved us from the catastrophe of another world war. In the meanwhile, stock-piling is going on in several countries; and the heavy rearmament programmes of the different nations have resulted in phenomenal rises in the prices of several commodities, with inevitable repercussions on the world's economy.

3. In the death of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, India has suffered an irreparable loss. He was one of the formost fighters for India's freedom and his achievements in respect of the consolidation of free India are known to all of you. My Government deeply mourn his death. We can pay no better homage to his memory than dedicate ourselves to the service of the country as he had done.

FOOD SUPPLY

4. The food situation in the country continues to be grave and serious. Internal production in almost all the States in India has suffered badly owing to natural calamities. In our own State, there was severe drought in the taluks of Shencotta and Chittur, while about 12,000 acres of paddy lands in Kuttanad were affected by breaches due to tidal action. My Government are making strenuous efforts to meet the situation. New land is being brought under cultivation. Single crop lands are being converted into double crop. Top priority is being given to irrigation works. Supply of manures is being assured to every ryot. The system of procurement has been systematised and the procurement price of paddy is being raised wherever possible. If the over-all effect is still a deficit, it is a result from which we cannot escape. The deficit that remains can be made up only by supplies

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